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LETTER DATED 15 MAY 1991 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

Upon instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters, I have the honour to bring the following serious Iraqi violations of the term of cease-fire between Iran and Iraq to your attention. These persistent violations illustrate the regrettable intention of Iraqi authorities to create tension at the border in order to divert public attention from difficulties at home. Cognizant of this fact, the Islamic Republic of Iran has also tried to prevent further escalation of tension through bilateral contacts, and in this context has brought these violations to the attention of Iraqi authorities in Tehran, Baghdad and at the border.

1. On 10 March 1991, at 1400 hours, a number of Iraqi forces penetrated 700 metres deep into the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the area of Yebis martyring two Iranian soldiers.

2. On 11 March 1991, at 0830 hours, two Iraqi helicopters violated the airspace of the Islamic Republic of Iran conducting reconnaissance flights up to Kanjancham pass (Kaleh Ghandi area) strait.

3. On 11 March 1991, at 0945 hours, a number of Iraqi forces crossed the internationally recognized boundaries in the Ghalavizan area, south of Mehran, and opened fire at an Iranian personnel carrier martyring two and injuring two Iranian soldiers.

4. On 14 March 1991, at 1240 hours, two Iraqi helicopters opened fire at an area spreading from Chazzabeh to Fakkeh. On the same day, at 1845 hours, an Iraqi infantry battalion supported by 15 tanks and vehicles crossed the international border at Chazzabeh and opened fire on the Iranian forces. The intruding forces were finally driven back. As a result, three Iranian soldiers were wounded and one soldier was martyred. Also two injured Iraqi soldiers, two vehicles and some ammunition were left behind.

5. On 16 March 1991, at 0030 hours, a number of Iraqi forces penetrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Bahram-Abad area, west of Mehran, and wounded one of the Iranian border guards.

6. On 26 March 1991, an Iraqi armoured brigade supported by the fire of tanks and rocket-launchers crossed the border at the axis of Talaieh-Nashweh road, penetrating 500 metres deep inside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They were driven back by the Iranian forces. As a result, five Iranians were martyred and five more were wounded.

7. On 26 March 1991, at 2230 hours, an Iraqi company backed by continuous firing penetrated the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the area of Meimeh river and engaged Iranian forces for half an hour in which the former were forced to withdraw. Three Iranian soldiers were martyred and one was injured.

8. On 28 March 1991, at 2230 hours, Iraqi forces opened fire at border posts No. 1 and 2 located between Sharhani and the Nahr-e-Anbar axes. Iraqi forces crossed the internationally recognized borders and attacked border post No. 11 in Nahr-e-Anbar area destroying an Iranian bunker with RPG7. As a result three Iranian soldiers were injured.

9. On 11 April 1991, at 1700 hours, brigades No. 23 and 45 of Iraqi eleventh infantry division using 51 tanks backed by heavy artillery and rocket-launchers advanced towards the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran at axes of Shalamcheh and Fish farm roads. The movement of the Iraqi forces was stopped due to the darkness, but in the next morning (12 April 1991) they continued to fire and advanced inside the territory of the Islamic Republic of Iran. They were forced to withdraw by Iranian forces. As a result of the ensuing clashes eight Iranian soldiers were injured and four others were illegally captured.

10. On 21 April 1991, at 1030 hours, four Iranians, a commissioned officer, a non-commissioned officer and two soldiers, were kidnapped on Iranian soil by Iraqi forces who had crossed the internationally recognized boundaries in Naft-Shahr.

11. On 21 April 1991, at 2300 hours, Iraqi forces opened fire with light and semi-heavy weapons on the Shahid Barzegani base in southern Mehran. About 40 Iraqi soldiers approached the base and were confronted with the Iranian forces. Finally the Iraqi forces fled the scene. Three Iranian soldiers were injured and an Iraqi soldier was taken captive.

It would be highly appreciated if this letter were circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) M. Javad ZARIF
Ambassador
Deputy Permanent Representative